

FASHION NOTES GATHERED HERE AND THERE

PARISIAN NOTES OF INTEREST TO WOMEN. MODEL STREET GOWNS AND NEW HATS.



THREE GOWNS FROM PARIS.

Special Correspondence of The Star.

PARIS, April 29, 1907.

Whenever I dine or lunch in a Paris restaurant with American friends they always appear unable to distinguish the native element from the strangers, and, as the question seems to interest visitors from across the sea, I hereby point out to you the distinctive marks. The Parisienne can be recognized at a glance by the tasteful and especially unobtrusive character of her toilet; but, as everybody is not an expert in fashion, you have but to watch the drinks served with the meals to come to a right conclusion. If you see a lady drink a mysterious mixture of claret and cherry brandy, in which slices of banana are swimming, you will invariably find she is American. Champagne in large quantities denotes the Russian, while served in smaller doses it is the characteristic of the German. Vin ordinaire, followed by a bottle of good Burgundy, is the course pursued by the Englishman, unless he takes lemonade or whiskey and water. But when you see a table whose occupants only partake of mineral water pure and simple and who do not even look at the bottles of liquor brought with the coffee you can be certain they are Parisians. The latter, who were never great drinkers, have now altogether discarded wine. I am, of course, only alluding to the Parisian of the higher classes, for among the lower strata the juice supposed to come from the grape, but very different in quality, is still in favor. A movement has been set on foot to prevent the sale of that fearful stuff called absinth. The consumption of that poison is a national evil, but it will take a long time before it is rooted out.

The Frenchwoman's Hopes.

Of all the demands made by feminists in the name of womanhood that of the suffrage has of course, aroused the greatest excitement. Some opponents of the claim would have us believe that the electoral vote can only be safely exercised by "ames d'élite." The same argument was employed when it was first proposed to give the woman the vote. French feminists do not regard the electoral vote as an apothecia; they see in it a means—the only means—to insure equal and liberal legislation. To pretend to see in it a menace to the position of man in the state is, they say, absurd. To remove a handicap from the elector is to put it on the elector. And when the argument is put forward that the vote is but the thin end of the wedge and that it is but a step from the elector to the elected feminist reply, "And then? Naturally they contemplate such a vista with equanimity, remembering Queen Elizabeth in England, the Empress Catherine in Russia, the Empress of China and the late Queen Victoria as examples of women and statecraft. It is certain that with the suffrage feminists aspire to a readjustment of remuneration in the labor market, a very far-reaching reform. "Equal work, equal pay" is the motto of the party and is carried into effect in some countries. The Swiss post office pays all its employees on a scale which is identical for the two sexes. The United States of America pays its employees in the same way. In France, feminists work for these two objects and look forward with a great deal of confidence and hope to their early realization.

As Madame Reasons.

French feminism is very clear and definite in its reasoning. The Latin mind, whether masculine or feminine, does not admit of any of that cloudy complexity which so often mars the mental outlook of the American woman. The wrongs of woman begin even in the nursery, says the French feminist. Should a little girl show signs of extra intelligence? "What a pity she is not a boy," say her parents. Her aptitudes, consistently ignored, and all the efforts of parents and teachers are directed toward bringing her into exact harmony with the one unvarying model of what she "jeune fille" should be—namely, a docile, submissive thing in the hands of her father until such time as she can be handed over to the safe keeping of a husband. "The woman," said Napoleon to the framers of the code, "is as much the chattel of her father first and her husband afterward as the apple tree is of the gardener," and it is in this sense that the civil status of woman in France was laid down. The married woman of today cannot dispose of her own earnings; she cannot sign a contract with the firm of publishers who are bringing out her own novel. Her child, if born outside marriage, can be taken from her by its father, though she cannot claim from him any help for its support. Such are but a few of the disabilities against which French feminists are in revolt.

The Charm of Contrast.

As I am very devoted to the charm of contrasted textures, I liked so much an evening frock I saw recently of chiffon and chenille appliques. The trimming I should think was made for the frock, as I haven't seen anything like it in the shops. The col-

oring was a quite vivid pink, almost a flame pink, and the chenille in the same shade exactly and mounted over one of those new soft wool-backed satins. About its low bodice this interesting frock had silver bugle embroidery, just a very little to give a suspicion of sparkle. I was busy imagining this frock in gray or in black—it would have been charming in either—and might just as well be mounted over satin to match as over the white. It is a question on which there is every freedom of choice, this of mounting transparencies. I, for instance, saw an afternoon frock of mole-colored voile mounted over saxe blue the other day that had some silver lace about the bodice. And mentioning this frock reminds me of the vogue for blending saxe blue with mole color or gray. A mole-colored frock, for instance, would have a saxe blue hat, with just a touch of mole color in it, and perhaps the bodice of the frock might have a very slight note of the blue along with silver. The milliner nearly always adds the touch of blue to the hat of saxe blue or gray, and, too, looks very well on the softer dull shades of wine color. I admired the other day a tailor suit of this shade of face cloth that had pretty little facings and details of embroidered saxe blue cloth, and that was worn with a hat of black crinoline straw, very prettily twisted with saxe blue fall ribbons, supported by a plume, one of those mysterious plumes savages in the same blue. It is interesting to note just now how, while the colored frock will be kept mainly in the one tone, a black frock is always relieved by color or mounted over white, or in some way absolved from its blackness.

The Season's Headgear.

Black hats, all black, are now as de mode as they were delightful a few years ago. The black hat will perhaps have on it, as had a pretty intrepid I saw recently, Brussels applique or blond lace, saxe blue ribbon and pink roses. A black hat may be massed with a blending of color, roses, pink, and blue and white, and black and green, and pannels of purple and mauve with their characteristic splashes of yellow, and other flowers, or the color scheme may be carried out in wild flowers, although these, I think, I rather prefer on a hat white, not black or else on the colored Leghorns. Panamas that are just now being dyed the popular shades and which will look very smart massed with field flowers.

Some Hair Ornaments.

We are tiring of the spangled leaves and Louis XV knots and have adopted almost unanimously for the moment silver and gold cloth as a headgear. A band of this glittering material about four inches wide, is doubled in halves and placed in coronet shape upon the hair in front, disappears beneath the "French" curls so fashionable and appears again in its entire width at the back of the head like a comb. If well arranged this style of hairdressing is very becoming, in either silver or gold, for preference in silver on dark hair. Day and night tinted fabrics will predominate for visiting wear. Within the last three or four years we have indulged in fad and esthetic tints of the pastel or dragees family, and now current red, prairie green or hussard blue of quite shrill complexion are to have their innings. The first appearance of these loud intruders shocks us—we repulse their bold advances—but a second glance appraises us; the confusion from which evolve these daring color schemes are so cunningly contrived and so alluringly devised that, malgre tout, we acquiesce. Fashion has been thus controlled since the beginning of the world, and so will continue to be. Short waists are a decisive pronouncement, and one against which no woman may rebel. With the most unpretentious, as with the most elaborate, of skirts the waist has to be fixed in proximity to the arm holes, and though the contrary might be anticipated, this mode tends to diminish in appearance an inclination to embonpoint to which the female form divine is so often liable. Undoubtedly, therefore, its adoption will be carried unanimously. As well, we have to accustom ourselves to another variation. Our skirts are to be generously trimmed; they are to be laden with passementerie and braiding, what their length and width are to continue on the moderate lines of hussard. A pretty notion is the soft swathed sash with long ends of mousseline de soie. In contrasting tints to the gown. On a dead leaf voile we see an almond green sash, and a gray sash with a bright blue dress is an infinitely original experiment in tonality. If I whisper of linen frocks now, when dog days and their diaphanous potentialities are yet somewhat remote, I do not commit an indiscretion. I see already preparing delightful models in linen, incrustated with Valenciennes and net lace, such as we use for our window blinds. Very effective will be these gowns in every variety of colorings, but more particularly in the new canary and brick shades.

CATHERINE TALBOT.

Pickled Oysters.

For one hundred large oysters allow one pint white wine vinegar, one large red pepper broken in small pieces, two dozen each cloves and whole black peppers and a dozen blades of mace; put the oysters and liquor into a porcelain kettle, salt to

taste and bring slowly to the scalding point. Do not allow the liquor to boil. Take out the oysters just at their plumpness and before the edges begin to curl and set aside to cool; strain the liquor and return to the kettle, add vinegar and spices, then bring to a good sizzle and pour over the oysters when almost cold. Cover the jar in which the oysters are and set in a cool place over night. The next day put in glass cans, seal and set in a cool, dark place.

Bargains for the Thrifty Woman.

Since materials and colors to be worn this spring are much the same as the favorites of a year ago, women can get bargains now in the "left overs" of 1904 that will be quite as smart as the new fabrics.

It may not in every instance be possible to get the exact tint one wishes, and naturally the novel colorings are out of the question. Still, among the shades that are in vogue year in and year out, as gray, tan, pink and blue, dress lengths in all materials are to be had just now that are well worth purchasing.

There are, it is true, new materials each season, or at any rate fabrics come up that have been out of favor for some time, and then have a great run of popularity, but with a style or sort of fabric that is quite novel there is always the danger of its not remaining long in

ORGANDIE AND LIGHT SILK USED FOR WEDDING GOWNS

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If the trousseau is limited it is not only good form, but desirable that the wedding dress shall be one that can be worn afterward, so that this robe should not be of conventional satin. Anything more useless later than a "staid" wedding dress is not to be imagined, and the expense of the garment is very great.

Quite as pretty would be a frock of crepe de chine or India silk, made so that it will be pretty for afternoon or informal evening affairs. Etiquette sanctions organdie for weddings now, and the material is dainty and graceful.

With such a dress a veil is not suitable, but as custom demands that the bride's head shall be covered, a little white hat should be worn. This, too, will be serviceable later. Cloves are not necessary.

Should the bride be married in a traveling frock, it must be of a light-colored cloth, and hat and gloves are absolutely indispensable. For a "traveling dress" wedding, there may be no bridesmaids, but only one "attendant," nor may the bride carry a bouquet.

If the bride is leaving directly after the ceremony, omitting a reception, only the intimate friends expect to be invited, but in this case sending announcements is most important. Any person who fails to receive them considers it a cut direct, meaning that the bride does not care to continue their acquaintance. Such cards should be posted as soon as the ceremony is over.

It is quite possible, if one wishes, to have a large church wedding and a small and informal reception. This is sometimes done when there is mourning in the family, but some one is usually a traveling dress, left out, and hurt feelings seem always to result. Nevertheless it is good form.

The bride's father pays all the expenses of the wedding, except the clergyman's fee. Any music or decorations are provided by the parent, and he also supplies the carriages for the bridesmaids, if there are any.

Crystal Wedding Celebration.

You may, if you wish, use langins for the invitations, but I think that better still would be small-size white note paper. At the top put your monogram, using a fine paint brush and mucilage. It would, of course, be well to try this first with pencil to know precisely the size and style. While the paste is still wet scatter over it diamond dust or mica, which will cling and dry as the paste.

Another way would be to cut the monogram out of langins, using a sharp knife, and paste this to the top of the paper.

If the evening is to be an informal one the invitation should be written as a note, asking your friends to come at a certain hour on a certain date to celebrate your crystal wedding anniversary. Should the invitation be formal, however, a regular "at home" card is used, having the monogram in the center and at either side the date of the marriage and the present date engraved. Your maiden name and your husband's full name is engraved either at the top or at the bottom of the invitation. This is rather elaborate, you see, for any but a large and formal reception.

Dancing is quite appropriate, and there may be games, either of cards or anything else. It is extremely nice to have music.

The supper may be elaborate or simple, but I think it would be well to have hot bouillon, a salad and one hot dish, bread and butter sandwiches and ices and cake. I would have the ices and cake white.

One can have a good model for a suit of this type of boy, and in fact, for any little fellow, the younger child having the blouse cut up to the neck and finished with a rolling collar, while an older one may wear the jacket cut in a "V" with a sailor collar and a shield of a contrasting color added. Cream serge makes excellent little refiners or box coats for baby boys, and these simple models are quite within the skill of the amateur dressmaker. Large pearl buttons should be the only decoration on them.

Spring overcoats of navy serge closing with brass buttons are smart for boys beyond babyhood, and these, too, may be manufactured at home. Such a wrap will be found a great convenience all summer for outings, as boys of this age usually wear wash suits, and so need some such protection.

The straw Napoleon hats go well with cream serge refiners, though if the round turn-up brim headgear, trimmed with a silk pompon is more becoming to the wearer it will be entirely in good taste.

For some reason or other larger boys seem to have a craze for the Peewee hats. Certainly there is nothing attractive about them, yet every school child is wearing one, and to all appearance—from a front view at least—they might be bareheaded. So, really, this style may be said to be neither useful nor ornamental.

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LINGERIE HATS MAY BE MADE BY THE HOME MILLINER



Lingerie hats for girls are simply exquisite this year and are made of masses of lace, ribbon and flowers. That they are expensive to buy and difficult for amateurs to duplicate are readily understood, yet a lingerie hat, and a very dainty one, too, is within the powers of the home milliner, for such a model as the one shown in the illustration can be copied for a trifling expense.

The frame of wire on which the hat is made is cheap—so cheap, in fact, that the manufactured shape will probably cost more than the bought one, taking nippers and the different sizes of wires into consideration, and certainly a first experience could not possibly be expected to result as satisfactorily as a frame coming from skilled hands. To fashion headgear like the pictured styles, select a plain, flat wire hat rimming, giving all the effect of flowers without their fragility. Soft green, pale mauve and hydrangea blue is a happy combination; pink and blue blend prettily and so will green, blue and pale yellow.

The border is first cut off and the remaining part is used to cover the brim, both outside and in, one strip sufficing, the raw edges being gathered to fit the brim. The border is then used to cover the crown, the scalloped edges meeting, dovetailed together across the middle, and lying perfectly flat. The same strips cover the sides of the crown, and are sewn down as neatly as possible. The remaining border is then cut into four equal parts, the ends cut bias, and all are finally stitched together and formed into a square.

A little shirring will be necessary on the raw edge to make this square fit the crown, and then it is arranged on the outer brim with points at back, front and at sides, respectively. The hat is now entirely covered and only lacks the trimming. For this a large bow of pompadour ribbon has been chosen and a full bunch of flowers. These are not really necessary, a large bow tied at the counter and an extra half yard for encircling the crown providing a very pretty, dainty trimming.

Nowadays, when so much lingerie work is done at home, there are always little ends and scraps of lace and lawn which might be utilized in a very dainty way. A short length of lace banding cut to fit will finish the square, Dutch neck of a pretty chambray frock and save buying or the trouble of making a band as a finish. Strips of plique, shaped to form collar and cuffs, and simply attached in small loops on the edges, will freshen up a winter coat, and an odd bit of all-over lace will come in for tiny bolero jacket fronts to a light colored woolen frock, especially if the lace is finished with little frills of ribbon in a color matching the frock. If the lace is too small for two straight fronts, fold it corner to corner and cut through the bias. Catch the two corners together with a rosette of ribbon and then cut the lace to fit the lower edge of yoke and the armholes.

A square of butcher's linen, hemstitched on one of the corners, then cut out in the middle to fit the top of a frock that has been cut out for wear with a guimpe, makes a decidedly smart bertha over one of the darker plaid frocks, and short lengths of ribbon in different colors correctly blended provide the prettiest, and most practical hat trimmings, giving all the effect of flowers without their fragility. Soft green, pale mauve and hydrangea blue is a happy combination; pink and blue blend prettily and so will green, blue and pale yellow.

To Save Strength.

Beautifully the Skin.

There is just one person to whom life is more trying than to a nervous woman's relatives, and that one is herself. It is bad enough to jump, or wish to, at every unexpected noise, and to have a certain infection of a voice rasp one's nerves, and a surge of despair, but even this unhappiness is relieved by the oft-repeated remarks of one's family that "this is silly," or "don't be so fussy."

Once in a long while you run across a family who understand that curse of American women—"nerves," and who do their best to help one through the worst of it. She who is so often misunderstood, and who is so often misunderstood, is intended as